Fluctuations in production of stamps

2847. SHRI R. K. ANAND: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been wide fluctuations in the production, indent and supply of stamps and stamp papers for Indian Security Press from 1996-97 to 2003-04;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the supplies varied between as low as 27 per cent and a maximum of 59 per cent of the indents; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S. S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir. However, there has been no shortfall in production against the installed capacity except in the year 1999-2000. The fluctuations in the supply *vis-a-vis* indents is on account of the fact that the indents were inflated and not realistic in most of the cases.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The States and UTs have received supplies of 13 to 14 crores of stamps which is more or less consistent over the years. However, due to the wide fluctuations in the yearly indents from 18 crores to 52 crores the supplies as percentage of indents varied considerably. The States are now required to place 3 years rolling indent with a six monthly supply schedule to ensure realistic indent and better production planning. The indenters are also required to make an advance payment of 30% of the cost of indents at the time of placing orders and make balance payment of 70% at the time of taking delivery of the products. These measures have brought down the indents considerably.

Non-disbursal of loans by banks under SJGRY

2848. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had a series of meetings with the Minister of Rural Development regarding non-disbursal of loans by nationalised banks under the Swarn Jayanti Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SJGRY);